MAINE HEALTH ALERT NETWORK



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Update

2008PHUPD008

TO: Veterinarians; Public Health-Required

FROM: Dora Anne Mills, M.D., M.P.H., Public Health Director

SUBJECT: Revised Maine Animal Rabies 3rd Quarter Update – Jan. 1 – Sept. 30, 2008

DATE: November 25, 2008

TIME: 11:56 a.m.

PAGES: 4

PRIORITY: Low

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Animal Rabies 3rd Quarterly Update-Corrected

January 1 - September 30, 2008

The Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Maine CDC) provides a quarterly update on animal rabies to veterinarians and other animal health professionals. This update may be used as an educational tool to increase the understanding of pet owners and other members of the public regarding the risk of rabies in Maine and in their communities. This update is for rabid animals for the third quarter of 2008 or January 1 – September 30, 2008 (Table 1). Visit the Maine CDC rabies prevention website for more information, including rabies testing data updated regularly:

www.maine.gov/dhhs/boh/ddc/rabies surveillance.htm

Table 1: Animal rabies by county, town and species - Maine, January 1 - September 30, 2008 Corrected

County	Town	Animal Species Animal Species			County Total	
		<u>Bat</u>	Raccoon	<u>Skunk</u>	Other (Species)	
Androscoggin	Auburn	1	1		1 (Fox)	
	Lewiston			1		
	Poland		1			
	Turner		1			6
Cumberland	Cape Elizabeth		1			
	Casco		2			
	Gray	1	1			
	Raymond			1		
	Scarborough		1			7
Franklin	Farmington			1		1
Hancock	Trenton		1			1
Kennebec	Litchfield		1			
	Monmouth		1	1		
	Waterville	1				
	Winthrop		1			5
Knox	Camden			4		
	Rockland			3		7
Lincoln	Wiscasset		1			1
Oxford	South Paris	2				2
Penobscot	Bangor	1				
	Indian Island		6*			
	Milford		2			
	Old Town		3			13
	Patten		1*			
Sagadahoc	Arrowsic	1				1
Waldo	Montville		1			
	Thorndike		1			
	Unity			1		3
York	Buxton		1			
	Saco		1			
	Sanford				1 (Red Fox)	3
Species Total		7	29	12	2	
Maine Total						50

^{*} Animals tested by USDA APHIS Wildlife Services

The Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention and Maine Department of Agriculture would like to make veterinarians, animal control officers, and other animal health professionals aware of an update to the 2005 Maine Rabies Management Guidelines. The Maine Rabies Management Guidelines, 2005 are available at on Maine CDC's website,

(www.maine.gov/dhhs/boh/ddc/documents/RabiesManagementGuide2005.pdf) and represent State guidelines for the prevention and control of rabies in Maine.

This purpose of the update is to align state recommendations with national guidelines stated in the 2008 Compendium of Animal Rabies Prevention and Control (www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/rr/rr5702.pdf), developed and revised annually by the National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians. The change allows vaccinated domestic pets and livestock to be observed, rather than quarantined, in the event of a rabies exposure (Tables 2 and 3).

As of November 24, 2008, state recommendations read:

Currently vaccinated livestock, dogs, cats and ferrets exposed to a confirmed or suspected rabid animal should be revaccinated immediately and observed for 45 days. Observation is defined as watching carefully, especially with attention to details or behavior, for the early identification of any signs of illness. If signs suggestive of rabies develop, the animal should be examined immediately by a veterinarian.

If you have any questions please contact Dr. Don Hoenig, State Veterinarian, Department of Agriculture at 287-3701 or Ted Hensley, Epidemiologist, Maine CDC at 287-4473.

Table 1: Management of Dogs, Cats and Ferrets Exposed to Rabies -- Maine, November 24, 2008

Exposure Category	Vaccinated [§]	Non-Vaccinated ¶
Direct contact or visible bite from known rabid animal	1. Booster immediately* 2. Notify ACO 3. Observe [‡] for 45 days	1. Euthanize 2. If owner unwilling: a. Notify ACO b. Quarantine for 6 months c. Vaccinate on entry or 1 month before release
Direct contact with or visible bite or wound from suspect rabid animal (unavailable for testing)	1. Booster immediately* 2. Notify ACO 3. Observe [†] for 45 days	1. Euthanize 2. If owner unwilling: a. Notify ACO b. Quarantine for 6 months c. Vaccinate on entry or 1 month before release
Wound of unknown origin: suspicious scratch, bite, abscess or wound	1. Booster immediately* 2. Notify ACO 3. Observe [‡] for 45 days	1. Euthanize 2. If owner unwilling: a. Notify ACO b. Quarantine for 6 months c. Vaccinate on entry or 1 month before release
Exposure by proximity (seen near or in same vicinity of known rabid animal) -no contact or wounds	1. Consider booster* 2. Observe [‡] for 45 days	1. Vaccinate at once 2. Observe [‡] for 6 months

Table 2: Management of Livestock Exposed to Rabies - Maine, November 24, 2008

Exposure Category	Vaccinated [§]	Non-Vaccinated [¶]
Direct contact or visible bite from known rabid animal	1. Booster immediately* 2. Notify ACO 3. Observe [†] for 45 days	1. Euthanize 2. If owner unwilling: a. Notify ACO b. Quarantine for 6 months c. Consider vaccination on entry or 1 month before release
Direct contact with or visible bite or wound from suspect rabid animal (unavailable for testing)	1. Booster immediately* 2. Notify ACO 3. Observe [†] for 45 days	1. Euthanize 2. If owner unwilling: a. Notify ACO b. Quarantine for 6 months c. Consider vaccination on entry or 1 month before release
Wound of unknown origin: suspicious scratch, bite, abscess or wound	1. Booster immediately* 2. Notify ACO 3. Observe [†] for 45 days	1. Euthanize 2. If owner unwilling: a. Notify ACO b. Quarantine for 6 months c. Consider vaccination on entry or 1 month before release
Exposure by proximity (seen near or in same vicinity of known rabid animal) -no contact or wounds	1. Consider booster* 2. Observe [‡] for 45 days	1. Vaccinate at once 2. Observe for 6 months

^{*} If most recent rabies vaccination was given within 1 month, it is not necessary to re-vaccinate.

<u>§ Currently vaccinated animals</u>: at least 30 days has elapsed since the initial vaccination, and the duration of vaccination has not exceeded the time period recommended for that species and brand of vaccine.

^{¶ &}lt;u>Unvaccinated animals</u>: no previous rabies vaccination, first vaccination was given within the last 30 days, last vaccination has expired (per vaccine manufacturer's recommendations), or no approved vaccine exists for the species.

[†] Observe: to watch carefully especially with attention to details or behavior for the early identification of any signs of illness. If signs suggestive of rabies develop, the animal should be examined immediately by a veterinarian.